



EAGLE ISLAND JOURNAL

A Publication of the Friends of Peary's Eagle Island

Volume XII, Number I

Spring 2007

"Inveniam viam aut faciam."
Find a way or make one.

President's Message

You may have noticed this edition of the Journal doesn't contain the usual number of pages. This was done to accommodate inclusion of an "insert" that was just too good to pass up.

"A Grandson Remembers" was written by Ed Stafford at our request. We wanted to do a brief article about Josephine, the Admiral's wife, who became famous in her own right. So we turned to Ed, as we have done so often before, and, as usual, he responded immediately. Within a few weeks we received the manuscript. Ned added photos from the Maine Women Writers Collection, from our own collection, and from Peary Stafford's collection. The delightful results are enclosed.

The Friends of Peary's Eagle Island are truly blessed to have Ed and other members of the Peary family to turn to when we need help. Their dedication and enthusiasm is contagious and deeply appreciated.

Harry Rich

Thank You To Our Members

We wouldn't exist without our members. Our members have made it possible to produce the DVD and to purchase the means to show it. They have allowed us to fund our volunteer programs and to replace historic items in the house with identical items. They also allow us to restore artifacts in the house to their original condition. This winter we had the sofa and stool in the living room recovered with material almost identical to the original. Many other items have already been restored. Slowly, we are making progress. This summer we have purchased the material to redo the ceiling on the compass porch. This work will be done in August by the best craftsman namely, Peary Stafford, great grandson of the Admiral.

Thank you for all your support, *Ned Dewey*

We Are Ready

We want everyone to know that we are now ready to show our DVD to interested groups, up to 50 people. We have our own projector controlled with a laptop and the appropriate tweeters and woofers. (Even a small screen.) We are especially interested in presenting the program to schools and educational institutions, as well as Historical Societies, Fraternal Organizations, Youth Groups, Rotary

and Kiwanis Clubs.

So far this DVD on the life of Robert E. Peary, has met with great enthusiasm and applause. We have the short version (11 minutes) that we show on Eagle Island and we have the 48-minute long version with more detail. If you know of any organization that might be interested please contact us. You may purchase this DVD for home use; see our website.

John Davis

Ray Harrison

June 18, 1919 - March 20, 2007

The Friends are sad to announce the death of Ray Harrison, one of our founding members. Ray and his wife Edna were key players in organizing The Friends of Peary's Eagle Island more than 15 years ago. As members of the Board of Directors, both have provided valuable guidance and strong support for all of our projects, both on and off the island. We will miss Ray's many talents and his willingness to share them. Edna is temporarily staying at Hillhouse in Bath Her address is: Hillhouse, 166 Whiskeag Road, Bath, ME 04530.

We send our deepest sympathy to Edna and her family. Also our sincere thanks to Edna for her years of dedicated service.

Harry Rich

!! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!

DOCENTS: Would you like to spend the day on an enchanting island in Casco Bay watching the tide rise and fall, seeing dramatic ocean views in every direction, and enjoying the ever present cool and refreshing summer breezes?

If you would, you should become a volunteer guide (docent) on Eagle Island. We are blessed with many who really enjoy doing it, but we always need more in order to spread the days out on the island more evenly. We are trying to have two guides in the house every weekend, July through August, and would be most pleased if we could have coverage every good summer day as well. The duty is easy, you get to meet interesting people, and we know you will find something new in the museum every time you visit; there is so much to see. Guides are provided with a comprehensive manual, a badge, a yellow polo shirt, a copy of our new documentary film, and free transportation out and back. And we always cancel on stormy days.

If you would like to join us for our Docent appreciation luncheon at the Frontier Café, on Saturday, May 5th and learn more about this interesting summer experience, please let us know. Contact Helen Regan at 833-0558 or by email, hregan@suscom-maine.net.

WORK DAYS FOR 4: During the month of June we will schedule work days for 4 people, 2 days a week, on Mondays and Fridays. The four volunteers will work under the supervision of Jeanie Dorrington, Park Manager. The tasks will include: taking repaired furniture back to the island; finish cleaning out under the house, library, and caretaker's cottage; renting a scow to remove debris from the island to recycle center; reglazing and painting the windows in the caretaker's cottage; washing windows in the Museum inside and out; cleaning and waxing furniture; picking up all the winter debris on the beaches; building stone stairs on the new trail; installing water-bars on the trails; painting the composting toilet; scraping and staining the house trim. Jeanie has an always changing list.

Team members will depart the Dolphin Marina at 9:00 AM and return about 5:30 PM. Lunch and drinks will be provided. They must bring warm rainwear in the event of a weather change. Work days will be canceled in the event of heavy rain or storms. Work may be rescheduled by Jeanie or Dick. Call Dick Regan at 833-0558 or email him at rregan@suscom-maine.net.

TRAIL DAY, JULY 14: Work consists of: carrying bags of mulch from the dock out on the trails and spreading as directed; bringing branches and small trees, felled over the winter, to the island chipper; trimming and weed-whacking all trails; taking the mulch by wheel barrow out on the trails and spreading as needed; installing water-bars on the trails; cleaning the beaches; and painting signs, tables and benches. Each year, Jeanie Dorrington's tasks may be different, as she tries to keep the human impact on the island from interfering with the year round animal and bird residents and to prevent erosion from foot traffic on the much used and enjoyed trails. Then too, the houses on the island need much attention having survived their first century at the mercy of the North Atlantic. We try to have enough volunteers so that each will have a job commensurate with her/his abilities. Call Dick Regan at 833-0558 or email him at rregan@suscom-maine.net.

For sign-up sheets to download and mail to us, please go to our website. www.pearyeagleisland.org.



Eagle Island Board Members

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